

1                   **VIRGINIA TOBACCO INDEMNIFICATION**  
2                   **AND COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION COMMISSION**

3                   701 East Franklin Street, Suite 501

4                   Richmond, Virginia 23219

5  
6  
7                   **Special Projects Committee Meeting**

8                   Thursday, October 30, 2008

9                   8:00 a.m.

10  
11                  The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research

12                  Danville, Virginia

13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
  
CRANE-SNEAD & ASSOCIATES, INC.  
4914 Fitzhugh Avenue, Suite 203  
Richmond, Virginia 23230  
Tel. No. (804) 355-4335

1   **APPEARANCES:**

2   The Honorable William C. Wampler, Jr., Chairman

3   Mr. Kenny F. Barnard

4   The Honorable Daniel W. Marshall, III

5

6

7   COMMISSION STAFF:

8   Mr. Neal E. Noyes, Executive Director

9   Mr. Ned Stephenson, Deputy Director

10   Mr. Timothy J. Pfohl, Grants Program Administration Manager

11   Ms. Britt E. Nelson, Manager of Program Assessments

12   Ms. Sara Williams, Grants Program Administrator - Southwest Virginia

13   Ms. Sarah Capps, Grants Program Administrator - Southside Virginia

14

15

16   OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

17   Mr. Francis N. Ferguson, Deputy Attorney General, Counsel for the

18                   Commission

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 SENATOR WAMPLER: I'll call the meeting to  
2 order. Would you call the roll?

3 MR. NOYES: Mr. Barnard?

4 MR. BARNARD: Here.

5 MR. NOYES: Mr. Brown?

6 MR. BROWN: (No response.)

7 MR. NOYES: Mr. Jenkins?

8 MR. JENKINS: (No response.)

9 MR. NOYES: Delegate Kilgore?

10 DELEGATE KILGORE: (No response.)

11 MR. NOYES: Delegate Marshall?

12 DELEGATE MARSHALL: Here.

13 MR. NOYES: Mr. Mayhew?

14 MR. MAYHEW: (No response.)

15 MR. NOYES: Ms. Nyholm?

16 MS. NYHOLM: (No response.)

17 MR. NOYES: Senator Puckett?

18 SENATOR PUCKETT: (No response.)

19 MR. NOYES: Senator Wampler?

20 SENATOR WAMPLER: Here.

21 MR. NOYES: You don't have a quorum, Mr.

22 Chairman.

23 SENATOR WAMPLER: Well, we'll proceed with  
24 what we've got on the Agenda, even though we don't have a quorum. I think  
25 we can go ahead with some informal recommendations.

1                   We do have the Minutes, but we can't approve them because we  
2   don't have a quorum, so we'll dispense with the approval of the Minutes and  
3   go on with the Agenda as best we can.

4                   There is at least one matter that there are some comments that  
5   have come before us, and that's the main reason for us meeting this morning.  
6   We want to get a clarification on the VCU application. We may want to  
7   hear from the applicant and get a little bit more information about how their  
8   services are going to be improved for the Southside area.

9                   Tim, I'll turn it over to you.

10                   MR. PFOHL: Let me give you a little bit of  
11   background. The Executive Committee met yesterday and took up two  
12   proposals. One of those was the VCU application. This proposal was  
13   presented in July to the Special Projects Committee at your meeting, and the  
14   VCU project was tabled. The VCU people were asked to revise it.  
15   Whatever they were asked to do they have done, and they submitted an  
16   addendum to us. That is in your Commission packet.

17                   VCU is here to speak to the specifics of the proposal. In short,  
18   they have removed some things that they were asked to do for funding and  
19   have submitted three alternatives that will happen all within the Tobacco  
20   Commission footprint within Southside Virginia. They can speak to those, if  
21   you would like. You will find that information in tab number three in your  
22   packet.

23                   MS. LAVISTA: I'm Rosemary LaVista. Thank  
24   you for the opportunity to appear before you. I'm just going to make a short  
25   introduction and then turn you over to Sally Norton and Brian Cassel, who

1 are much more familiar with this. We really appreciate the opportunity to  
2 come back to this area. This cannot only benefit us now, but for the long  
3 term this will be a beneficial program to all. This will give us an  
4 opportunity to be creative, as well as to cover some things that will  
5 beneficial to all.

6 The first part is really switching over control of the project, and  
7 I think Sally Norton would be the person to explain that more fully. But,  
8 again, we appreciate the opportunity to appear before you and to answer any  
9 questions you may have.

10 MS. NORTON: I'm Sally Norton, and I'm the  
11 Scientific Program Administrator with the Department of Social and  
12 Behavioral Health School of Medicine at VCU.

13 These projects pretty much come from the idea of social health.  
14 I'm the administrator of the research activities that come out of our  
15 department. I also would be happy to answer any questions you have, or if  
16 you need any clarification, we'll be more than happy to explain that. We've  
17 identified prevention and control services in studies which require that over  
18 80 percent of the funds be expended in the tobacco-dependent counties. We  
19 estimate together with our clinical trials outreach, these services and studies  
20 could benefit up to nearly one-half the population of Southside Virginia.

21 We propose projects such as the Library Health Kiosk Program,  
22 \$100,000 and the Prevention PSA Campaign, \$100,000 and the Health  
23 Literacy and Treatment Adherence Initiative, \$100,000. In the first year, as  
24 far as the libraries, we'll be getting a computer station with a printer for each  
25 of the libraries and trying to train library staff to be sure that they are

1 competent and to reach the residents in using this equipment. The Internet  
2 can increase health literacy by linking users to high-quality up-to-date health  
3 information.

4 DELEGATE MARSHALL: Where are the  
5 locations?

6 MS. NORTON: I don't know if they have been  
7 designated or not yet. I'm not that intimate with that yet. However, research  
8 is being done to identify the libraries that will become part of this network.  
9 We can get back to you on the specifics of that. We also might come back  
10 and get information on where people might like these to be, if that would be  
11 more serviceable to their needs. We're also interested to know if you think  
12 there are better places to put this equipment so we can get the information.

13 DELEGATE MARSHALL: Why libraries, as  
14 opposed to places like Wal-Mart? Do you think a lot more people would  
15 have access to using them in places like that than a library?

16 MS. NORTON: These are the kind of questions  
17 we'll be asking that we need to address, because this technology is available,  
18 and we want to get full utilization of it. We want to develop a relationship  
19 with the community and help the communities to decide for themselves what  
20 issues are important and the best way to help solve problems. In other  
21 words, we want to satisfy the communities. We train on these subjects in the  
22 School of Public Health. This also is a great opportunity for research that  
23 exists at VCU to start developing and begin conversations with the  
24 communities, and we can only grow from there.

25 The School of Public Health's education mission is just that,

1 public health, and we need to be teaching our students and folks in the  
2 communities how to access information and help them determine for  
3 themselves what their priorities and needs are. We want to help them  
4 address that. We want to help the consumers access valid, understandable  
5 health information. We have created the Consumer Outreach Information  
6 Network, commonly known as COIN. COIN consists of four consumer  
7 resource centers, one of which is the Massey Cancer Center. The COIN  
8 centers provide free computer access, face-to-face assistance in assessing  
9 health information. So, we want to help people in Southside with access to  
10 computers and printers in Health Information Kiosks located in the public  
11 libraries. As I said, if those aren't the best facilities or locations, then we  
12 need to hear from you.

13 We also have public training workshops in distinguishing high-  
14 quality on-line health resources from other sites and training for local  
15 librarians so that they can continue to provide end-user training on an  
16 ongoing basis. A part-time health information specialist from the region will  
17 be hired, supervised and trained.

18 That's about all I can give you at this time, but I can tell you  
19 that the locations don't necessarily have to be the libraries, and this is where  
20 we need information from you, and we'll be gathering this in our research.  
21 We do have to have facilities that the equipment can be kept at and used so  
22 that it won't be damaged, of course; but the locations are important, and we'll  
23 be looking into that further.

24 DELEGATE MARSHALL: I see this as making  
25 people aware, letting them know where these facilities are in order to get the

1 information.

2 MS. NORTON: This is a pilot study, really, and  
3 we'll have to have full approval of this concept while we're doing this  
4 research, but during this period of time we'll be exploring that.

5 DELEGATE MARSHALL: Is this information all  
6 available on-line?

7 MS. NORTON: Yes.

8 SENATOR WAMPLER: If you look at the  
9 budget, the personnel will be in Southside and trained. I think it's helpful to  
10 tell the story about how people in Southside benefit and get this information  
11 and also these clinical trials, to get that information out.

12 MR. PFOHL: In tab three, towards the back,  
13 there's a clarification of the addendum. It's called Clarification Addendum,  
14 80 percent of the funds will be expended in tobacco-dependent counties.  
15 You can see that the new budget items include the Library Health Kiosk  
16 Program, Prevention PSA Campaign, Health Literacy and Treatment  
17 Adherence Initiative and the original budget items that would remain. That's  
18 followed by a detailed explanation. It outlines who is going to be given  
19 access to clinical research opportunities.

20 SENATOR WAMPLER: Are there any other  
21 questions or concerns or comments from the Special Projects Committee?  
22 Does anyone have any questions? It's my intention to informally  
23 recommend this to the full Commission. If there is any other discussion, we  
24 can have it, but I'm comfortable with this. Does anyone object to  
25 recommending this to the full Commission? All right, then, we'll



1 recommend this to the full Commission.

2 MS. LAVISTA: We look forward to  
3 implementing this and getting back to you and partnering with you on how  
4 we can achieve the results we desire to help the citizens. For us, that's really  
5 what we're all after, so thank you very much.

6 SENATOR WAMPLER: Thank you for coming.

7 Tim, do you have any other official business for us? Any other  
8 matters before us?

9 MR. PFOHL: No.

10 SENATOR WAMPLER: I do have another  
11 matter. C. D. Bryant would like to address us with a matter.

12 MR. BRYANT: Senator Wampler, Special  
13 Projects Committee, I've had an issue come up, and all of the grants come  
14 from this Committee, and I'm speaking of 1157, which is the original grant  
15 for Windy Acres. I have a motion. I move that the Commission authorize  
16 the Executive Director to act to rescind the grant of \$25,000 made by ROI,  
17 LLC. We have a breach of contract on behalf of ROI, and we need to  
18 terminate this with ROI. I've spoken to legal counsel and with Neal, and we  
19 need you to entertain this motion and bring it to the full Commission.

20 SENATOR WAMPLER: First of all, I'll just speak  
21 for myself, but thank you for following through on this. We need to do  
22 more of that within the Commission when people aren't living up to what  
23 they're supposed to do and make sure that these are fully adhered to.  
24 Without objection, we'll take that up with the full Commission. So without  
25 objection, it would be my intent that we do that. Is there any objection by

1 any other members? Do you support this? All right.

2 MR. BRYANT: Dealing with 1669, there was  
3 another matter to develop the value-added project. Now that we want to  
4 terminate this relationship with the vendor, we need this to be over. So I  
5 have a motion to amend 1669 to remove Concerned Friends for Tobacco  
6 from the project.

7 SENATOR WAMPLER: Any questions about  
8 that? Without objection, we'll recommend that to the full Commission. We  
9 only vote on appropriated money we have within the Committee. So, thank  
10 you for following through on that.

11 Any other matters before the Special Projects Committee? Any  
12 comments from the public?

13 Well, we still don't have a quorum, so we cannot adjourn, but  
14 thank you for coming.

15

16 PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED.

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 CERTIFICATE OF THE COURT REPORTER

2  
3 I, Medford W. Howard, Registered Professional  
4 Reporter and Notary Public for the State of Virginia at large, do hereby  
5 certify that I was the court reporter who took down and transcribed the  
6 proceedings of the **Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community**  
7 **Revitalization Commission Special Projects Committee Meeting when**  
8 **held on Thursday, October 30, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. at the Institute for**  
9 **Advanced Learning and Research, Danville, Virginia.**

10 I further certify this is a true and accurate transcript  
11 to the best of my ability to hear and understand the proceedings.

12 Given under my hand this 15th day of November,  
13 2008.

14  
15  
16  
17  
18 \_\_\_\_\_  
19 Medford W. Howard

20 Registered Professional Reporter

21 Notary Public for the State of Virginia at Large

22  
23  
24 My Commission Expires: October 31, 2010.

25 Notary Registration Number: 224566